

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 A-01 OPR-02
OC-06 CCO-00 USSS-00 AID-05 OMB-01 EUR-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /107 W
-----119607 141513Z /42

R 141315Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5663
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 2885

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: GY, CU
SUBJECT: CUBAN MISCHIEF: POISONING THE WELL

1. DURING THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF THIS EMBASSY HAS FREQUENTLY FELT THE IMPACT OF ANTI-US ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY MEMBERS OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN GUYANA. FOR EXAMPLE, A YEAR AGO AT THE TIME OF THE CUBANA CRASH OFF BARBADOS, ALLEGEDLY ENGINEERED BY CUBAN EXILES, MEMBERS OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY STAFF WERE PASSING OUT LEAFLETS URGING PEOPLE TO DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF THE US EMBASSY. THE CUBANS ALSO SUPPLIED BURNHAM WITH SO-CALLED "INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION" OF US PLOTS TO ASSASSINATE HIM AND OTHER DESTABILIZATION ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST HIS GOVERNMENT. THROUGH SUCH ACTIVITIES THEY UNDOUBTEDLY HAD SOME SUCCESS IN UNDERMINING THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USG AND GOG.

2. THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE OF SUCH CUBAN ACTIVITY IS
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A REPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED THAT OFFICIALS OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY HAVE SPREAD A STORY THAT THE NEW US AID DIRECTOR, EDNA BOORADY, IS ACTUALLY A CIA AGENT. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE RECEIVED RELIABLE REPORTS THAT THE CUBANS ARE ALSO ATTEMPTING TO DENIGRATE, IN GUYANESE MINDS, US EFFORTS TO FORM A CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR THE CARIBBEAN. THEY HAVE BEEN EXPLOITING THE PHRASE REPORTEDLY USED IN PRIME

MINISTER WILLIAMS' LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE WHICH INDICATED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD FAVOR TRINIDADIAN "FINANCIAL AND IDEOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP" IN THE CARIBBEAN. THEY HAVE BEEN TEASING GUYANESE OFFICIALS WITH THIS PHRASE, IMPLYING THAT THE GUYANESE IN RETURN FOR MONEY AND US ASSISTANCE WOULD SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO THE HUMILIATION OF KNUCKLING UNDER TO WILLIAMS' LEADERSHIP, THUS EXPLOITING ON THE WELL-KNOWN FEUD BETWEEN PRIMIN FORBES BURNHAM AND HIS TRINIDADIAN OPPOSITE NUMBER THAT HAS WAXED AND WANTE OVER THE YEARS.

COMMENT: FORTUNATELY, IN THE IMPROVED CLIMATE THAT EXISTS THIS YEAR IN CONTRAST TO THAT OF A YEAR AGO, EFFORTS SUCH AS THE ONE CONCERNING THE AID DIRECTOR PROBABLY WILL NOT BE VERY CREDIBLE. HOWEVER, THE EFFORTS TO RIDICULE THE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP BY REPRESENTING IT AS DR. WILLIAMS' CREATURE COULD HAVE A CONSIDERABLE NEGATIVE EFFECT. THE CUBANS HAVE SKILLFULLY PLAYED ON RACE, GUYANESE INSECURITIES AND SENSITIVITIES, AND BURNHAM'S EGO IN THEIR VARIOUS EFFORTS TO MANIPULATE THE GOG. WE CAN EXPECT CONTINUING CUBAN EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE WHATEVER EFFORTS THE US MAY MAKE TO PLAY A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE CARIBBEAN. THE CUBANS RIGHTFULLY RECOGNIZE THAT OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS THEY HAVE GAINED SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE, PARTICULARLY IN CERTAIN OF THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN

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STATES. ANY INITIATIVES OF OURS WHICH HAVANA VIEWS AS JEOPARDIZING THAT CLEVERLY-WON LEVERAGE WILL BE OPPOSED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: GEORGETOWN
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Subject: CUBAN MISCHIEF: POISONING THE WELL
TAGS: PROP, PINS, GY, CU, US
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